

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-21 and 24-32 are pending in the present application. In the above amendments, claims 19 and 20 have been amended to improve the clarity of the claims in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions. Claims 2 and 22-23 have been canceled without prejudice and new claims 28-32 have been added.

In the Office Action mailed April 25, 2003, the Examiner objected to claims 1 and 19-20 because it is alleged that these claims contain acronyms that have not been previously defined in earlier claim language. With regard to claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that the acronym "TMSI" has already been defined within the claim as "Temporary Mobile Station Identity." Applicants have amended claim 20 to define the acronym "RR" as "radio resource" as defined in the specification on page 7, line 6. The acronym "RRC" has been deleted from claim 19. Accordingly, in light of these amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner's objection to these claims have been overcome.

The Examiner rejected claims 2 and 22-23 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as containing references to standards. In response thereto, Applicants have cancelled claims 2 and 22-23 of the present invention without prejudice. Accordingly, Applicants submit that this rejection is now moot in view of the cancellation of claims 2 and 22-23.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-5, 7-10, 12-21, and 22-27 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Selby (EP0260763). In the rejection, the Examiner contends that Selby teaches a method for registering with a plurality of registration zones in a wireless communication network. The Examiner states that Selby does not specifically state that the system assigns a temporary mobile subscriber identity. The Examiner, however, alleges that Selby does teach a generic registration method that may have been implemented on various different cellular communications systems that were being used at the time. The Examiner further contends that "Selby's method could have easily been modified to operate on a system that required each mobile unit to receive a TMSI in order to be registered in a certain area served by a base station." The Examiner then concludes that the claimed invention is not novel over Selby. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Applicants respectfully submit that Selby fails to teach or suggest to assign a first Temporary Mobile Station Identity (TMSI) from a first network entity in response to registration in a first registration zone and to assign a second TMSI from a second network entity in response to registration with a second registration zone as is claimed by claims 1, 24, and 27 of the present invention. Although Selby discloses registration of a mobile in more than one service area, Selby does not disclose the assignment of a first and second TMSI from first and second network entities in response to registration in the first and second registration zones. Applicants further submit that the Examiner has failed to provide any evidence that it is known to assign a first and second TMSI from first and second entities in response to registration in the respective first and second registration zones. In the rejection, the Examiner merely states that Selby's method could be easily modified to operate on a system that required each mobile unit to receive a TMSI in order to be registered in a certain area served by a base station, but fails to provide any evidence of such. Accordingly, because Selby does not teach or suggest to assign a first Temporary Mobile Station Identity (TMSI) from a first network entity in response to registration in a first registration zone and to assign a second TMSI from a second network entity in response to registration with a second registration zone, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 24, and 27 of the present invention (and all claims dependent thereon) are allowable over Selby for at least this reason.

The Examiner further rejected claims 1, 5, and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Fehnel (US 6,064,889). In the rejection, the Examiner contends that Fehnel teaches a method for registering with a plurality of registration zones in a wireless communication network. The Examiner acknowledges that Fehnel does not teach that the system assigns a Temporary Mobile Subscriber Identity (TMSI) to the mobile when it would register in each different service region. The Examiner then alleges Fehnel's method could have been easily modified to operate on a system that required each mobile unit to receive a TMSI in order to be registered in a certain area served by a base station. The Examiner then concludes that the claimed invention is not novel over Fehnel. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Applicants respectfully submit that Fehnel fails to teach or suggest to assign a first Temporary Mobile Station Identity (TMSI) from a first network entity in response to registration in a first registration zone and to assign a second TMSI from a second network entity in response

to registration with a second registration zone as is claimed by claim 1 of the present invention. Although Fehnel discloses registration of a mobile in more than one service area, Fehnel does not disclose the assignment of a first and second TMSI from first and second network entities in response to registration in the first and second registration zones. Applicants further submit that the Examiner has failed to provide any evidence that it is known to assign a first and second TMSI from first and second entities in response to registration in the respective first and second registration zones. In the rejection, the Examiner merely states that Fehnel's method could be easily modified to operate on a system that required each mobile unit to receive a TMSI in order to be registered in a certain area served by a base station, but fails to provide any evidence of such. Accordingly, because Fehnel does not teach or suggest to assign a first Temporary Mobile Station Identity (TMSI) from a first network entity in response to registration in a first registration zone and to assign a second TMSI from a second network entity in response to registration with a second registration zone, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 5, and 6 of the present invention are allowable over Fehnel for at least this reason.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter by objecting to claim 11 of the present invention as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but being allowable if rewritten in independent form.

REQUEST FOR ALLOWANCE

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that all pending claims in the application are patentable. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of this application is earnestly solicited. Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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